# **Iowa WIC Vendor Newsletter**

Volume 16 Issue 7 July 2015

Food Updates

- 2015-2018 Agreement
- eWIC Rollout
- Shelf label Requirement
- WIC Federal Guidelines
- FMNP Checks
- Agreement Meetings



Iowa WIC Toll-Free In-State 800-532-1579

Iowa WIC Direct Number 515-281-6650

### **Changes to the Iowa WIC Approved Food Package**

Effective <u>July 1, 2015 all "FRESH" potato types/varieties</u> are authorized to be purchase with WIC Benefits (Cash Value Voucher). NOT authorized are frozen items such as french fries, hashbrowns, tator totes and refrigerated potatoes are not authorized.
 Frozen vegetables with potatoes add are authorized.



• Gerber twin pack 4-ounce (total of 8-ounces) is an authorized item. WIC agencies will be issuing checks for specific package sizes. Checks for individual 4-ounce containers and twin pack 4-ounce are being issued

\*\*\*\*\* The traditional twin pack 3.5-ounce (total of 7-ounces) is NOT an authorized item

## 2015-2018 Approved Foods and Vendor Agreements

 Approved Foods for 2015-2018 have been selected and will be effective October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2018. Stores will be receiving English and Spanish flyers during the upcoming Vendor Agreement signing and eWIC training meetings being conducted this summer.



Each Vendor will receive a minimum of 25 English food flyers either at the meetings or via mail. The Program will also have Spanish versions available. The Program will not be developing a training CD at this time but will be putting together a training CD in 2016 which will incorporate the Approved Product List (APL).

## Electronic WIC (eWIC) Pilot and Rollout

- eWIC Pilot will be conducted in the fall of 2015
- Implementation will begin in 2016
- The rollout will be in a counterclockwise direction starting in the following counties: Lucas, Marion, Monroe, Warren, and Wayne.
- The rollout will be by local agency areas
- A rollout schedule is being developed and will be sent to all stores when it is finalized





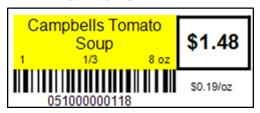


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#### **Shelf Label Requirement**

Iowa WIC Approved vendors are required at all times to consistently identify all product using shelf labels that meet the following criteria including price points:

- Product Description indicating brand/company name, and product description,
- Selling unit size (indicating ounces, pounds, container and sleeve/pack)
- Selling unit retail font no less than 48-font
- Shelf tags / Signage dimensions block lettering. Shelf tags will measure no less than 2 inches by 1 inch.



Sample Shelf Labels



**Basic Shelf Label** 

**Deluxe Shelf Label** 

#### **Regulations for WIC Transactions**

When handling WIC food instruments, there are federal and state regulations that every vendor must follow. These regulations are outlined in the lowa WIC Agreement. Each time a vendor accepts a WIC food instrument, the vendor certifies that the program regulations were followed in that transaction. Any vendor that accepts WIC food instruments in accordance with the program regulations is guaranteed payment. Failure to adhere to these regulations could result in a vendor's suspension from participation in this program.

The WIC vendor's cooperation is essential to the WIC Program. It is the vendor's responsibility to ensure that this information is clearly understood by all store associates who will be involved in WIC transactions.

Before receiving his/her food instruments, each WIC participant receives detailed instructions on how to use the food instruments. In addition, WIC participants are advised to inform vendors at the checkout counter that they are using WIC food instruments. Most WIC participants should have no problem using their food instruments. However, on occasion it may be necessary for store associates to assist some participants in completing their food instruments correctly.

When purchasing food or formula with WIC food instruments, a participant must present his/her WIC Identification (commonly known as the "ID card.") This card is required for identification purposes before WIC food instruments can be accepted. This card is also used for comparison with the signature on the food instruments.







Grocery Stores are not authorized to accept these checks.

FMNP Senior and WIC FMNP checks may only be redeemed at Farmers Markets

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All Current WIC Agreements expire September 30, 2015.

All WIC authorized stores will be sent 2015-18 Vendor applications and Prices Surveys.

Applications must be completed and returned by July 1, 2015.

Date	Mandatory WIC Training Schedule of 2015-2018 Mandatory Meetings Combined Grocery and Special Purpose Vendor Meetings "Date/Time of Farley and Davenport training has changed"			
July 21	9:00 - 1:00	Wallace Bldg Auditorium	Des Moines	502 East 9 <sup>th</sup> Street
July 22	8:30 - 12:30	Genesis Health System	Davenport	1401 West Central Park Ave Adler 1 & 2
July 22	2:00 - 5:00	Farley Memorial Hall	Farley	208 1 <sup>st</sup> Street NW
July 23	1:00 - 3:00	DSG/Price Chopper ONLY	Des Moines	4343 Merle Hay Rd
July 29	9:00 - 1:00	NICA WIC Office	Mason City	218 5 <sup>th</sup> Street SW, Suite 200
July 30	9:00 – Noon	HyVee ONLY	Cherokee	Cherokee Distribution Center
August 4	1:00 - 4:00	Iowa Lakes College	Emmetsburg	Wellness Center Room #17
August 5	12:30-4:30	Morningside Branch Library	Sioux City	4005 Morningside Ave Garretson Room
August 6	9:00 - Noon	HyVee ONLY	Des Moines	Wallace Bldg Auditorium
August 11	1:00 - 5:00	Cass County Hospital	Atlantic	1501 East 10 <sup>th</sup> St Room #2
August 12	10:00 - Noon	Walmart ONLY	Cedar Rapids	7727 Kirkwood Blvd SW
August 13	9:00 - 1:00	Ottumwa Health Center	Ottumwa	1001 Pennsylvania Ave Rooms A and B
August 18	9:30 - 10:30	Fareway ONLY	Boone	1215 South Marshall St
August 18	1:00 - 4:00	L. Johnson Stores ONLY	Conrad	Conrad Library
August 20	9:00 - Noon	HyVee ONLY	Chariton	Chariton Distribution Center
August 25	12:30 to 4:00	West Union Library	West Union	210 North Vine Street ICN Room
August 26	9:30 - 1:00	Cedar Falls Library	Cedar Falls	2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room
September 3	9:00 - 11:30	Walgreens ONLY	Iowa City	855 South Dubuque St. Rm 203B & C
September 10	9:00 - 11:30	Walgreens ONLY	Des Moines	4201 Westown Parkway
September 16	9:00 - Noon	Johnson County Health	Iowa City	855 South Dubuque St. Rm 203B & C
September 16	1:30 - 4:30	HyVee ONLY	Iowa City	855 South Dubuque St. Rm 203B & C
September 23	8:00 - 1:00	Wallace Bldg Auditorium LAST MEETING	<b>Des Moines</b>	502 East 9th Street

Stores not attending one of the above meetings will not be authorized to accept Iowa WIC benefits after September 30, 2015.

Questions regarding the Iowa WIC Agreement and eWIC training meetings should contact Don Gourley (515-281-6205 OR via email Donald.Gourley@idph.iowa.gov

Iowa Department of Public Health Attn: Iowa WIC Program Lucas State Office Building 321 East 12th Street Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075

Attn: Store Management and Store Associates July 2015 WIC Newsletter Vol 16 Issue 7

#### **Iowa Program Vendor Contacts**

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WIC Vendor Representative—Ken Kane	515-281-3929	kenneth.kane@idph.iowa.gov
WIC Vendor Coordinator—Don Gourley	515-281-6205	donald.gourley@idph.iowa.gov



Attn: Iowa WIC Program
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0075

lowa Web site: www.idph.state.ia.us/wic FNS Web site: http://www.fns.usda.gov/wic.

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The Iowa WIC Program reserves the right to limit the purchase of products that cost more than average price of similar products, in order to serve as many participants as possible under USDA guidelines. Products with special claims may not be approved.

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